Docket No.: 0397-0503PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yoshiharu WAKAO et al.

Application No.: 10/567,682

Confirmation No.: 4473

Filed: February 9, 2006

Art Unit: 4151

For: METHOD FOR TREATING SHIP BALLAST

Examiner: L. A. Stelling

WATER

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.